

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 5, 7, 10-11, 18-19, 21 and 26-32 are amended to eliminate multiple dependencies. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Appendix

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APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

The following are marked-up versions of the amended claims:

5. (Amended) Actuator according to claim 2, ~~3 or 4~~, wherein the screw (5) is integrated with the outer ring (10) of the support bearing (11).

7. (Amended) Actuator according to ~~any of claims 2-6~~, claim 2, wherein the outer ring (10) of the bearing (11) supports a rotatable sleeve (31) which is in connection with the rotatable component (19) of the drive.

10. (Amended) Actuator according to claim 7, ~~8 or 9~~, wherein the sleeve (31) is connected to the rotor (19) of the motor (3).

11. (Amended) Actuator according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~, claim 1, wherein one of the nut (4) and screw (5) is rotatably supported both according to an axis parallel with respect to said linear movement, and according to at least one axis transverse with respect to said linear movement.

18. (Amended) Actuator according to claim 16 ~~or 17~~, wherein the teeth of the externally toothed member (24) are centred with respect to the ball joint (13).

19. (Amended) Actuator according to ~~any of claims 14-18~~, claim 14, wherein the screw (5) is integrated with the outer ring (10) of the support bearing (11).

21. (Amended) Actuator according to claim 19 ~~or 20~~, wherein the outer ring (10) of the support bearing (11) is integrated with an internally toothed member (26).

23. (Amended) Actuator according to ~~any of claims 19-22~~, claim 19, wherein the rotor (19) of the motor (3) is rotatably supported on the outer ring of the support bearing (11).

26. (Amended) Actuator according to claim 19 ~~or 20~~, wherein the rotor of the motor directly engages the outer ring of the support bearing.

28. (Amended) Actuator according to ~~claims 13-27, claim 13~~, wherein the screw (5) and the support shaft (16) each have a throughgoing bore, said bores being aligned with respect to each other.

29. (Amended) Actuator according to ~~any of claims 1-28, claim 1~~, wherein the screw (5) comprises a bore, said bore containing a grease dosing unit (53).

30. (Amended) Actuator according to ~~any of the preceding claims, claim 1~~, wherein at least one of the components of the screw mechanism, support bearing, auxiliary bearing and reduction gear mechanism comprises a surface obtained by hard turning.

31. (Amended) Actuator according to ~~any of the preceding claims, claim 1~~, wherein at least one of the components of the screw mechanism, support bearing, auxiliary bearing and reduction gear mechanism comprises a coating, e.g. a diamond-like carbon coating.

32. (Amended) Actuator according to ~~any of the preceding claims, claim 1~~, wherein an encoder is provided for measuring a relative rotation.